

OPINION 697

DOTO OKEN, 1815 (GASTROPODA):
VALIDATED UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers:

(a) the generic name *Doto* Oken, 1807, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy;

(b) the generic name *Doto* Oken, 1815, is hereby validated, with type-species *Doris coronata* Gmelin, 1791.

(2) The generic name *Doto* Oken, 1815 (gender: feminine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Doris coronata* Gmelin, 1791, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 1583.

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *coronata* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the binomen *Doris coronata* (type-species of *Doto* Oken, 1815) (Name No. 1964);

(b) *fragilis* Forbes, 1838, as published in the binomen *Melibaea* [sic] *fragilis* (Name No. 1965);

(4) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *Doto* Oken, 1807 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) (Name No. 1680);

(b) *Dota* Gray, 1840 (an incorrect spelling for *Doto* Oken, 1815) (Name No. 1681);

(c) *Melibaea* Forbes, 1838 (an incorrect spelling for *Melibe* Rang, 1829) (Name No. 1682);

(d) *Meliboea* Forbes, 1838 (an incorrect spelling for *Melibe* Rang, 1829) (Name No. 1683);

(e) *Dotilla* Bergh, 1879 (a junior homonym of *Dotilla* Stimpson, 1858) (Name No. 1684);

(f) *Dotona* Rafinesque, 1815 (a *nomen nudum*) (Name No. 1685);

(g) *Dotona* Iredale, 1918 (a junior homonym of *Dotona* Carter, 1880) (Name No. 1686).

(5) The family-group name DOTIDAE (correction of DOTONIDAE) Gray, 1853 (type-genus *Doto* Oken, 1815) is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Number 363.

(6) The following family-group names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) DOTONIDAE Gray, 1853 (type-genus *Doto* Oken, 1815) (an incorrect original spelling for DOTIDAE) (Name No. 400);
- (b) DOTOIDAE Jeffreys, 1896 (type-genus *Doto* Oken, 1815) (an incorrect spelling for DOTIDAE Gray, 1853) (Name No. 401).

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1006)

The present case was first submitted to the office of the Commission in February 1956 by Dr. Henning Lemche. A revised version of Dr. Lemche's application was sent to the printer on 20 October 1961 and was published on 28 May 1962 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **19** : 156-159. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the Bulletin as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51-56) and to two specialist serials.

Dr. Lemche's proposals were supported by Professor H. Engel and Professor Nils Odhner. Dr. Odhner, however, objected to the form of the family-group name proposed for addition to the Official List (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **20** : 138). Further correspondence on the correct form of the family based on *Doto* was sent to Commissioners with Voting Paper (63)18, and is reproduced below.

Prof. L. W. Grensted (Classical adviser to the Commission) (27.ii.63)

Doto is the name of a sea-nymph, found in Homer and Hesiod and taken over by Virgil and Valerius Flaccus into Latin. The Latin use is of course decisive, but in fact the Greek gives the same result.

In Greek: Δωτώ gives the genitive Δωτοῦς. This is contracted from Δωτόος, and Dr. Lemche is right grammatically in treating Δωτο- (*Doto*-) as the stem. But normal usage is to treat -οῦς as the genitive termination, giving the stem *Dot*- and the family-group name DOTIDAE.

This is actually the answer given in the Table in the Rules, p. 138, in the parallel case of αἰδῶς-οῦς and ἠχώ-οῦς (*aidōs*-ous and *ēcho*-ous), so that though there is a case for Dr. Lemche's DOTOIDAE that answer is not allowed by the Rules.

In Latin, which as I say is decisive. *Doto* has the genitive *Dotūs*, where -ūs is simply the Latinization of the Greek -οῦς. This must give *Dot*- as the stem and DOTIDAE as the family-group name.

Actually this termination and genitive are not (and ought to be) given in the Table on p. 123 of the Rules, and of course are just a direct transliteration of the Greek. But that does not affect the answer to the question.

DOTONIDAE is simply wrong, as there is no genitive *Dotonis*

DOTOIDAE is wrong, but very nearly right

DOTIDAE is the only answer possible under the Rules, and remembering that the Latin has priority as against the original Greek.

Prof. Nils Odhner (7.iii.63)

In this case we have the possibility of comparing the *nomen proprium* *Doto* with the *n.pr.* *Dido*, genitive *Didous* or (in Latin) *Didonis* (cf. A.G.G. Salenius, Latin-Swedish Dictionary, Stockholm, 1873). By analogy with *Didonis*, it is quite justifiable to adopt the genitive form *Dotonis*, at least as a *licentia scienciae*—and the problem is solved. The Commission has sanctioned such linguistic-

ally impossible, though nomenclatorially practical, genitives as *möbiusi*; why not admit the "new" form *Dotonis* (perhaps to be linguistically avoided, but analogically consequent and nomenclatorially quite practical)? I therefore recommend the first use of the family name *DOTONIDAE* auct. for the Official List of Family-Group Names, and that the names *DOTIDAE* and *DOTOIDAE* be rejected. It may be added that the first of these two reminds one more of *dos*, *dotis* (= dowry) than of the zoological name *Doto*.

Dr. Henning Lemche (19.iii.63)

In reply to your letter concerning the spelling of the name *DOTOIDAE*/*DOTONIDAE*, and the statement by Prof. Grensted, I should like to say that I am very little concerned with this problem. I shall gladly accept the form *DOTIDAE* if that is the correct spelling, and I see no chance of any confusion arising out of a change-over to that spelling. Nobody can be in any doubt as to what is meant, and that is what matters.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 13 May 1963 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (63)13 (A) either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 19 : 158-159, paras. (1)-(4); (B) either for the addition of *DOTIDAE* to the Official List with addition of *DOTONIDAE* and *DOTOIDAE* to the Index or for the postponement of a decision on the family name until the possible use of the plenary powers has been advertised. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 13 August 1963 the state of the voting was as follows:

Part A. Affirmative votes—twenty-three (23), received in the following order: China, Boschma, Holthuis, Vokes, Stoll, Hering, Bonnet, do Amaral, Mayr, Alvarado, Obruchev, Lemche, Riley, Binder, Borchsenius, Uchida, Tortonese, Jaczewski, Miller, Evans, Kühnelt, Brinck, Mertens.

Negative votes—none (0).

Voting Papers not returned—one (1): Munroe

On Leave of Absence—three (3): Bradley, Key, Prantl

Part B. For the addition of *DOTIDAE* to the Official List: — Sixteen (16): China, Boschma, Holthuis, Stoll, do Amaral, Mayr, Obruchev, Lemche, Riley, Borchsenius, Uchida, Tortonese, Jaczewski, Miller, Evans, Brinck.

For postponement of a decision—two (2): Vokes, Binder.

Commissioner Hemming returned a late vote, voting in the affirmative in Part A and for the addition of *DOTIDAE* to the Official List in Part B.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists and Indexes by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

coronata, *Doris*, Gmelin, 1791, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) 1 : 3105

Dota Gray, 1840, *Syn. Cont. Brit. Mus.* (ed. 42) : 148

Dotilla Bergh, 1879, *Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien* 28 : 574

DOTIDAE Gray, 1853, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (2) 11 : 220

Doto Oken, 1815 *Lehrb. Naturgesch.* (3) 1 : 278

DOTOIDAE Jeffreys, 1869, *Brit. Conch.* 5 : 59

Dotona Iredale, 1918, *Proc. malac. Soc. Lond.* 13 : 30

Dotona Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse Nature*: 161

DOTONIDAE Gray, 1853, an incorrect original spelling for DOTIDAE q.v.

fragilis, *Melibaea*, Forbes, 1838, *Malac. Monensis*: 4

Melibaea Forbes, 1838, *Malac. Monensis*: 4

Meliboea Forbes, 1838, *Malac. Monensis*: 59

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (63)18 were cast as set out above, that the proposal set out in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 697.

W. E. CHINA

Acting Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

24 September 1963